

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

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AGENDA

Meeting Date: Friday, January 17, 2014 **Time:** 10:00 am - Noon
Place: Veteran's Memorial Hall
801 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Please RSVP to Chair by email or 235-5779, if you are unable to attend this meeting.

10:00 am Call for a Quorum
Call to Order

- Flag Salute
- Roll Lists
- Approval of November Minutes
- Approval of Agenda
- Guest and Public Comment [[2 minute limit](#)]

Introductions: Guests & Members

Presentations:

"Introducing the California Senior Legislature (CSL) and Code 402". Presented by Alice Loh, CSL Senator, and Gari Cave, CSL Assemblyperson.

Special Guest Report:

"Legal Issues Affecting SLO County Seniors." Stephanie Barclay, Senior Legal Services Project.

Unfinished Business:

- Deborah Bayles resignation
- Slate of appointments for 2014-2016 terms—vote in February. Appointment begins in March.

Updates:

- District Atty Office, Victim/Witness Assistance
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Mental Health for Older Adults
- Outreach Committee: Speakers Bureau; Hearing Advocacy; COA Corner
- Supervisor Representatives
- 211 issues

Chair Report:

- ASPC announcements

Other Announcements:

Adjournment:

Next Meeting, February 21, 2014

SLO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Veterans Memorial Hall
801 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo

Minutes, January 17, 2014

Members Present: Alice York, Maryanne Zarycka, Judy Mishoulam, Jo Dennison, Diane Maiorano, Marie Pounders, Kathleen Bellefontaine, Marilyn Hamilton, Myra Lathrop, Carol Schmidt, Elias Nimeh, Julie Macedo, Angela Viles, Gari Cave, Kevin Edmonds, DSS (for Rosa Fernandez)

Absent: Anita Shower, Cindy Deibert, Deborah Bayles

Guests: Liz Ruth – Supervisor Caren Ray, Sierra Cadena - Katcho Achadjian, Sandy Simon, SLO; Sharon Roberts, SLO Senior Center; Ginny & Roger Randall, Los Osos; Brittany Caraway, Peoples' Self Help Housing; Maddy Chimino, Victim Witness; Larry Shiffer, Paso Robles; Judy Salamacha, Cayucos, Joyce Pardue, SLO Fire Dept, Sandy Crandall, SLO, Leonard Milstein.

10:00 AM Quorum established.

Call to Order: by Chair Bellefontaine. Flag Salute. Circulation of roll lists.

Minutes from last month accepted.

Agenda approved as written.

Public Comments: none

Introductions of all members and guests. Elias announced the amazing donation from an Atascadero Senior group called "100 Women Who Care" to the Senior Nutrition Program (\$10,000).

Presentation: "Introducing the California Senior Legislature (CSL) and Code 402".

Speakers: Alice Loh, CSL Senator and Gari Cave, CSL Assemblyperson reviewed the purpose and history (including a powerpoint) of the CA Senior Legislature, in existence since 1979-1980. It is a non-partisan organization. Each year in October, the representatives from each county meet in Sacramento for a week of reviewing the needs of seniors in the state. There are both general sessions and smaller group workshops daily to discuss and vote on the most important issues which should become bills. All proposals must be supported by a paid elected official. Out of all the proposals, ten are selected for the California Legislature. Each Area on Aging gets to choose which ones they will actively support. Of all the proposals, four are selected to move to Congress for consideration. A handout was distributed which outlines all of the 2014 proposed legislation with their numbers and authors. Alice stated that Nutrition, Housing and Elder Abuse are the current top concerns of the CA Senior Legislature. Alice is on the Legislative Committee and Gari is on the Health Committee. The future of the CA Senior Legislature is at risk. Each year, on our State tax returns, there is a selection of voluntary donations a person can make. The CA Senior Legislature is one of these (**code 402 CA Fund for Senior Citizens**), but it is not accurately titled. Last year, it did not receive the minimum of \$250,000 that is needed for it to be able to continue. The CSL has proposed bills that assist seniors in many areas such as improving access to courts, Silver Alert, property tax exemptions, better protection in nursing homes to name only a few. Please donate to this title to help the Senior Legislature to continue to work to write bills which help seniors.

Gari also introduced Morro Bay's *Citizen of the Year*, Judy Salamacha, who writes a column in the Tribune.

Special Guest Report: Stephanie Barclay – Senior Legal Services Project is a project which assists SLO County seniors with legal issues. Major funding comes from the Area Agency on Aging. SLO City has contributed in the past. Stephanie's position is only part time but she has assistance from several retired local attorneys. Seniors need to be 60 or over to qualify and it is necessary to prioritize cases based on need. Several of the senior centers have a designated day per month when the attorney is present, appointments must be made through the centers. Currently, cases primarily involve housing issues, evictions and elder abuse. Help is also provided for *advanced health care directives* and *durable power of attorney forms*. The Center will be fundraising this year so a part time office assistant can be hired. Stephanie provided handouts for the program.

Unfinished Business: Deborah Bayles' term in the Senior Service Provider position will expire at end of February. She is not planning to re-apply. Jo Dennison and Cindy Deibert have not re-applied for their positions on the Commission. Jo has been invited to remain as an Honorary Member for as long as she would like to stay on with COA.

Marilyn Hamilton announced the recommended slate of members whose terms would begin March 1st. Vote will take place in February: *Members at Large:* Kathleen Bellefontaine and Carol Schmidt; *Alternate Member at Large:* Sharon Roberts. New applicants have applied for other openings.

Updates:

District Atty Ofc: Announcements by Angela Viles: introduced new intern, Maddy Chimino; District Atty Victim Witness program will now include serving Crime Victims with Disabilities; PG&E scam. Any question about mailings or calls from PG&E should be forwarded or communicated immediately to PG&E.

Dept Mental Health: Julie Macedo announced: **Journey of Hope 2014: A Community Forum on Living Mentally Well** is next Wednesday, January 29th.

Outreach Committee:

-Judy Mishoulam reported that Caren Ray visited the Nipomo Senior Center.

-Maryanne Zarycka is continuing her monthly reports to the director at the Paso Senior Center.

-Marilyn Hamilton reported that there are several Speakers' Bureau presentations scheduled and there will be a new list of presenters and topics coming out in a month or two.

-Kathleen referred members to the COA website for the list of topics the Speakers' Bureau can find speakers for.

Chair Report: CAPSLO Home Repair Maintenance funds from AAA are used up for this fiscal year, but it is important to get on the list for next fiscal year. The *Listening Session* for the Area Agency on Aging is Thursday, Jan. 30, at the SLO Public Library. COA is listed under the 211 Resource list for referrals to community services for Seniors.

Other Announcements:

Liz Ruth, Caren Ray's Legal Assistant, told the group that she was very impressed with the COA after visiting with Kathleen and Alice before Christmas.

Adjournment: 11:50 am Diane made a motion to adjourn; Judy seconded.

Minutes submitted by Marie Pounders. Reviewed by Chair.